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Message Text

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53
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAJ-01

NIC-01 RSR-01 /080 W
---------- 008787
R 210940Z AUG 73
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 595
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0863

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: INFO, CH
SUBJ: RED GUARDS COMMEMORATED

REF: HONG KONG 8362

1. WE AGREE THAT THERE IS LITTLE EVIDENCE RED GUARD ORGANIZATIONS BEING REBUILT, AT LEAST INTO ANYTHING APPROACHING ERSTWHILE "STORM THE PARTY HEADQUARTERS" POLITICAL ACTIVISM. SOME FORM OF RED GUARD STRUCTURE DOES EXIST, AS MANIFESTED BY OCCASIONAL INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS OF YOUTHS WEARING ARMBANDS ON STREETS OF PEKING AND IN OTHER CITIES VISITED BY USLO OFFICERS. HOWEVER, ACTIVITIES OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE APPEAR LIMITED TO PERFORMING PHYSICAL LABOR SUCH AS PLANTING TREES, OR ESCORTING GROUPS OF YOUNGER SCHOOLCHILDREN AND STANDING GUARD AT SCHOOL CROSSINGS. ON ONE OCCASION USLO OFFICER WATCHED ARMBAND-WEARING GIRLS PRACTICE CHINESE FOLKDANCING, PERHAPS INDICATING THAT AMONG RED GUARD FUNCTIONS IS WELCOMING DISTINGUISHED VISITORS AT AIRPORT. NUMBER OF
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GIRLS WEARING ARMBANDS SEEMS TO EXCEED THAT OF BOYS.

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2. WE READ ARTICLES DISCUSSED REFTEL AS PART OF GENERAL MEDIA EFFORT IN THE PRELUDE TO THE PARTY CONGRESS TO STRESS WHATEVER POSITIVE THINGS CAN BE BELIEVABLY PUBLISHED ABOUT CULTURAL REVOLUTION. THE TERM COMMEMORATION SEEMS PARTICULARLY APT IN THIS CONTEXT. THE ARTICLES ARE SAYING THE RED GUARDS DID SOME GREAT THINGS IN THEIR DAY, BUT WERE LED INTO SOME BIG MISTAKES BY SOME BAD PEOPLE (ABOUT WHICH MORE MAY BE HEARD SOON). THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE RED GUARDS WERE GOOD, LEARNED A LOT FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE, AND ARE CONTINUING TO LEARN AND DO WELL IN THEIR FARM AND FACTORY POSTS. THE THRUST OF THE ARTICLES IS ALL IN THE PAST TENSE, WITH LITTLE APPARENT SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE FUTURE OF WHAT HAS INFACT BECOME A VERY PALLID ORGANIZATION IN THE PRC.
BRUCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, PARTY YOUTH WING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PEKING00863
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BRUCE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730825/aaaaasbx.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: HONG KONG 8362
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Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06-Dec-2001 by elyme>
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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RED GUARDS COMMEMORATED
TAGS: PINT, CH, RED GUARDS
To: STATE
Type: TE
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